

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
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R 221430Z MAR 78  
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7481  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
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AMEMBASSY BONN  
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AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USNMR SHAPE BEL  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 0767

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC  
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD  
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINS, CY  
SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW UNDERGROUND GROUP

REF: NICOSIA 689

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. A TAPE RECORDED MESSAGE  
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PLACED OUTSIDE THE OFFICES OF RIGHTIST NEWSPAPER AGON  
MARCH 18 ANNOUNCED THE FORMATION OF AN UNDERGROUND  
GROUP, THE GREEK LIBERATION ARMY --SUICIDE BRIGADES, (GLA-SB)  
AND THREATENED ACTION IF THE GOVERNMENT FAILED TO  
COMPLY WITH ITS DEMANDS BY MAY 15. (COMMENT: DATE  
CORRESPONDS WITH PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU'S DEADLINE OF  
GRACE PERIOD FOR SURRENDER OF ALL ILLEGAL FIREARMS -

REFTEL). DEMANDS ANNOUNCED IN TAPED MESSAGE ARE:

(1) ABOLITION OF PLO OFFICE IN CYPRUS AND EXPULSION OF ALL COMMANDOS, (2) DISARMING OF ALL PARA-GOVERNMENT GROUPS (APPARENTLY MEANING ARMED FOLLOWERS OF SOCIALIST LEADER VASSOS LYSSARIDES), (3) ENDING PURGE AND PROSECUTION OF INDIVIDUALS AND (4) AMNESTY OF ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS.

2. GOC SPOKESMAN ANNOUNCED MARCH 20 THAT GOVERNMENT WAS INVESTIGATING THE MATTER AND TAKING ALL NECESSARY MEASURES; CONSEQUENTLY THERE WAS NO NEED FOR PUBLIC ALARM. SPOKESMAN SAID GOVERNMENT HAD RECEIVED MANY REPORTS ABOUT PLANS RANGING FROM ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT TO CREATION OF ARTIFICIAL AGITATION AND CONFLICT ALONG CONFRONTATION LINE WITH TURKISH CYPRIOT-CONTROLLED AREA. SPOKESMAN ALSO SUGGESTED THAT DIALECT AND PRONUNCIATION OF VOICE ON TAPE INDICATED SPEAKER WAS OF GREEK CYPRIOT, NOT MAINLAND, ORIGIN.

3. ALL ELEMENTS OF GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS HAVE ANNOUNCED OPPOSITION TO FORMATION OF GLA-SB. PRO-KYPRIANOU ELEFTHERI KYPROS CALLED ON THE PUBLIC TO RALLY AROUND IT LEADERSHIP AND SUGGESTED NEW GROUP IS A "MANIFESTATION OF A WIDER CONSPIRATORIAL PLAN AIMED AT CREATING UNREST IN THE ISLAND." SOCIALIST EDEK'S WEEKLY ANEXARTITOS REPORTED THAT EOKA-B CADRE VASSOS PAVLIDES, ALIAS YATROL (RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF KYPRIANOU'S SON LAST DECEMBER), WAS BEHIND THE NEW ORGANIZATION. AGON SAID THE GROUP WOULD STAB THE COUNTRY IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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BACK AND DELIVER THE WHOLE ISLAND TO THE TURKS. AGON ALSO SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF A FOREIGN SECRET SERVICE BEHIND THE GROUP. SOCIALIST TA NEA LINKED FOREIGN CIRCLES IN NICOSIA WITH EXTREME RIGHTIST IN PLAN FOR THE "LEBANONIZATION" OF CYPRUS. RIGHTIST MAKHI LABELLED THE GROUP ENEMIES OF THE UNITY OF THE PEOPLE AND ALLIES OF THE TURKS. IN SLIGHT TWIST, MAKHI CALLED ON GOVERNMENT TO TAKE ACTION AND QUERIED WHY NOTHING HAS BEEN DONE HERETOFORE IN LIGHT OF RECENT REPORTS IN PRO-GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNIST PAPERS OF ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. END UNCLASSIFIED.

4. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. COMMENT. GENERAL ASSUMPTION BY PRESS THAT GROUP IS COMPOSED OF EOKA-B TYPES IS PROBABLY ACCURATE. TONE OF DEMANDS IS MARKEDLY ANTI-LEFT AND APPEARS TO BE DIRECTED PRIMARILY AGAINST INTERESTS OF SOCIALIST (EDEK) AND COMMUNIST (AKEL) PARTIES. INTERNAL POLITICAL TENSION, PARTICULARLY ANXIETY ON PART OF RIGHTISTS, APPEARS TO BE GROWING AND WOULD-BE ACTIVISTS SEEM TO BE INCREASINGLY ITCHY.

HOWEVER, CYPRUS HAS ALWAYS BEEN A HOT BED OF PLOTS AND INTRIGUES AND EMBASSY AS YET HAS NO INFORMATION WHETHER GLA-SB IS REAL OR POSES THREAT TO DOMESTIC STABILITY. END CONFIDENTIAL.

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMS, DISSIDENT FACTIONS, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** PINS, CY, PLO, GLA-SB, GREEK LIBERATION ARMY SUICIDE BRIG  
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